

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-03 SOE-02
AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02
PA-01 DOE-15 SAS-02 CEQ-01 OES-09 SS-15 ICA-11
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217667

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT (CD) - CONSULTATIONS
WITH THE AUSTRALIANS

REFS: (A) GENEVA 12180; (B) STATE 206079; (C) STATE
206907

1. AUSTRALIANS CAME IN AUGUST 24 TO CONTINUE CONSULTATIONS
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ON THE SELECTION OF THE ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE CD,
IN PARTICULAR, USG VIEWS ON THE STATUS OF THE AUSTRALIAN
CANDIDACY.

2. WE INFORMED AUSTRALIAN EMBOFF (COTTRILL) THAT WE HAD
COMPLETED OUR INITIAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE BRITISH,
FRENCH AND SOVIETS AND WERE CONTINUING WITH BILATERAL

CONSULTATIONS AMONG OUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES. REFERRING TO US/USSR CONSULTATIONS OF AUGUST 24 (REPORTED SEPTTEL), WE TOLD COTTRILL THAT SOVIETS HAD DROPPED THE LINKAGE BETWEEN THE CUBAN AND AUSTRALIAN CANDIDACIES AND NOW LINK CUBA TO THE NATO CANDIDATE. WE ALSO ADDED THAT WE BELIEVED THIS REFLECTED SOVIET RECOGNITION OF THE BROAD SUPPORT AUSTRALIA ENJOYS AMONG ALL THE VARIOUS GROUPS AND PERHAPS A GROWING REALIZATION ON THE PART OF THE SOVIETS THAT, IF EIGHT, RATHER THAN FIVE ADDITIONAL MEMBERS ARE CHOSEN, THE INTERESTS OF ALL CONCERNED COULD BE BETTER ACCOMMODATED.

3. WE ALSO DISCUSSED THE APPARENT GENERAL AGREEMENT DEVELOPING AROUND SOME OF THE CANDIDACIES AND INFORMED HIM THAT WE HAD REPORTS FROM GENEVA AND NEW YORK THAT AUSTRALIA WAS ONE OF FIVE CANDIDATES, OUT OF A POSSIBLE EIGHT, FOR WHICH CONSENSUS SEEMED TO BE DEVELOPING. HE TOLD HIM THAT, IN OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH THE BRITISH, THE FRENCH AND THE SOVIETS, WE HAD PUT FORWARD AUSTRALIA IN OUR PREFERRED SLATES OF BOTH FIVE AND EIGHT. WE ALSO INFORMED HIM THAT AUSTRALIA HAD BEEN INCLUDED IN THE INITIAL PREFERRED SLATES PUT FORWARD BY THE BRITISH AND SOVIETS AS WELL. THE FRENCH, WE ADDED, HOWEVER, HAD TOLD US THAT THEY HAD NOT YET TAKEN A FINAL DECISION ON FRANCE'S PARTICIPATION IN THE CD AND THAT THEREFORE THEY DID NOT HAVE ANY PREFERRED CANDIDATES AT THIS TIME.

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4. COTTRILL WAS ENCOURAGED BY OUR REPORTS ON THE STATUS OF THE AUSTRALIAN CANDIDACY AND EXPRESSED RELIEF AT LEARNING THAT THE SOVIETS WERE NO LONGER TYING AUSTRALIAN MEMBERSHIP IN THE CD TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF CUBA IN THAT BODY AS WELL. HE ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR US WILLINGNESS TO KEEP AUSTRALIA INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SELECTION PROCESS WHICH RELATE PARTICULARLY TO THE AUSTRALIAN CANDIDACY. CHRISTOPHER

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